

member of 28 years, and then mayor for 16 years. He also served as treasurer of the Pennsylvania State Mayor's Association.

He was an equally dedicated husband, father, and grandfather, who passed along his spirit of public service to his family and community. I extend my sincerest condolences to the Shovlin family. The Midland Borough and the Beaver Valley have lost a great man.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring Mayor Shovlin. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute such dedicated citizens like Mayor Bill Shovlin.

TRIBUTE TO GREGORY GAINES

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 14, 2006

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, the University of Michigan-Flint Alumni Society is bestowing their Community Service Award on Gregory Gaines of the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Addictions. The award will be presented to him at the 2006 Annual Alumni Leadership Awards ceremony on March 23. Greg was chosen to receive this award because of the selfless amount of time and energy he has devoted to running the Mr. Rogers "Say No" Program in the Flint community.

After earning a bachelor of applied science degree in 1989, Greg has worked with at-risk young men in our community to instill them with discipline, hardwork, and pride. Through his program over 1,800 boys have benefited from his training. His innovative approach, to have the boys grow the produce they sell at the Farmers' Market, teaches them the value of hard work, responsibility, working together, patience, problem solving and self-control. Greg works with boys that come from inner city, single parent homes and are prime targets for the lure of alcohol and drugs. With his guidance these boys are able to see the benefits of education and hard work. They develop the skills and patience to work toward long-range goals instead of succumbing to the immediate gratification of substance abuse.

The Mr. Rogers Program has proved to be so successful that for the first time girls will be brought into the program starting in the summer of 2006. Last year Greg won the Genesee County Children's Champion Awards Caring Adult prize and the Mr. Rogers Program was a finalist for the Outstanding Business/Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, day in and day out, Greg Gaines makes the Flint community a better place. His hands on approach to helping our children requires enthusiasm, tolerance, and persistence. Greg has proven he is equal to the task and his devotion to our greatest resource, our children, is to be commended. I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me today and applaud the accomplishments of Gregory Gaines as he receives the Community Service Award from his alma mater, the University of Michigan-Flint.

IN HONOR OF SPECIAL AGENT DAVID E. NOVAK, HAZARDOUS DEVICES SECTION, UNITED STATES CAPITOL POLICE, ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 14, 2006

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to pay tribute to one of our Capitol Police Officers, Detective David E. Novak, who will retire after more than 20 years of service. During his career, Dave's dedication, professionalism, and expertise have served the Congress well, and his important contributions will be missed.

Special Agent Novak grew up in Nebraska, but in 1983 came to Washington, DC, and became a member of the United States Capitol Police. First assigned to the Capitol Division, he soon earned the rank of Detective and accepted a position with the Hazardous Devices Section, graduating from the FBI Bomb Data Center Hazardous Devices School in Huntsville, Alabama, on November 21, 1986.

The Bomb Squad has excelled for more than 30 years at developing and adapting new tools and techniques for rendering safe procedures. Dave played an integral part in this success. The Capitol Police Bomb Squad is rated by the FBI Bomb Data Center and staff of the Hazardous Devices School at Redstone Arsenal as one of the top bomb squads in the Nation. The unit has achieved recognition throughout the bomb technician community through their assistance to other agencies and service in offices and positions in professional associations and organizations.

Admired by his colleagues for his cool, steady demeanor and exceptional skills with tools and equipment, Dave served as one of the leaders of the Bomb Squad as its members coped with the emergencies of 9/11 and the Anthrax letter attack. Mr. Speaker, the magnificent performance of the Bomb Squad in response to the opening of the anthrax letter on October 15, 2001, cannot be overstated. The continued dedication and commitment of the Hazardous Devices Section after that incident was impeccable. Dave helped sustain the morale and commitment of the bomb technicians after the contamination caused the closure of their offices, along with much of their equipment and vehicles. They coped with this loss even as they faced an exorbitant increase in response calls, and worked 12-hour shifts six days a week for nearly seven months.

The Bomb Squad is a small but very important component of this police force we all take great pride in. As Dave prepared for his retirement, he went out of his way to serve as a mentor, and a colleague, to those who would follow in his place. While we wish him well in his retirement, his wit, practical jokes, technical expertise and the significant role he played will be greatly missed. I thank him for his many years of service, and for his dedication in implementing the mission of the United States Capitol Police, protecting the United States Congress.

HONORING MARY ROGERS

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 14, 2006

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of San Francisco's most admired, beloved and fearless social activists, Mary Helen Rogers, who died March 3, 2006 at her home after a long battle with cancer. She lived an impassioned life fighting for affordable housing and social justice and to restore the vibrancy of San Francisco's Fillmore District. Her activism and courage often made the difference between the survival and the decimation of a community.

During the month of March, Women's History Month, as we honor the accomplishments of our great national heroines, we also recognize women working to strengthen their local communities. This past year we grieved the loss of several remarkable women who struggled for equality and progress, Rosa Parks, Coretta Scott King and Betty Friedan. I call them the magnificent disrupters. Here in San Francisco we were proud to have our very own magnificent disrupter—Mary Helen Rogers.

During her 40-year fight to protect African American families from being displaced by urban renewal, Ms. Rogers worked tirelessly to tear down the barriers that have prevented fair and equitable treatment of African American families, school-aged children, welfare recipients, minority businesses, and community churches.

When the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency was razing entire blocks of the Western Addition neighborhood, a cultural and business hub of the African American community, she literally lay down on the street in front of the bulldozers. She then co-founded the Western Addition Community Organization which forced the city to help the residents it had displaced.

Ms. Rogers founded the Western Addition Citizens Advisory Committee that continues to provide broad-based community input to publicly funded development initiatives. Her civic activities included serving as secretary/treasurer of the National Tenants Association, founding board member of Westside Mental Health Clinic, board member of Agape Outreach Center, chair of the San Francisco Juneteenth Committee, and parent volunteer at the Raphael Weill Elementary School, later known as Rosa Parks Elementary School.

In addition to her numerous volunteer positions, Ms. Rogers served as a dedicated public servant through her tenure at the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency and the San Francisco Housing Authority. She has received numerous awards from a host of national and local elected officials.

With great sadness I extend my sympathy to Mary's 9 surviving children: William Cary, Angela McPeters, Dennis Rogers, Patricia Rogers, Michael Rogers, Mark Rogers, Mario Rogers Sr., Eric Rogers Sr. and Paul Rogers. I want to thank them for sharing their magnificent mother with us; she brightened our lives with her strength, her courage and her grace.